

The action taken by Sinclair Broadcasting to require their local affiliates to air a political hit piece just before the November election is an example of the dangers some of us saw when the nation's airwaves are consolidated in the hands of fewer and fewer corporations. This is not "news" as claimed by Sinclair but rather it is a partisan action taken to attempt to impact the election process. I believe this is an improper use of the public's airwaves. I have always believed that it is the responsibility of the FCC to ensure the proper use of those airwaves by not allowing any broadcast corporation or syndicate to act as an arm of any political group. If this broadcast is allowed to move forward, the FCC should require a balance by insisting that Sinclair follow their "News Report" with a program provided by the opposing side, with the same amount of time allotted.

Additionally, I would support any activities taken to deny the renewal of Sinclair affiliate stations if they proceed with this sort of unlawful activity. I don't believe that this sort of violation of public interest standards should go unchallenged.

It is this activity that is the source of concern for a large part of the citizenry when your Commission voted to approve further consolidation of broadcast organizations.

Thank you for taking my note.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.